

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ascertaining a state of a mobile communication apparatus, comprising:

collecting data, on a subscriber information module (SIM) card of said mobile communication apparatus, from at least one of individual components and procedures embedded within said mobile communication apparatus, said data associated with at least one malfunction of at least one of said individual components and procedures embedded within said mobile communication apparatus and based on status quo information derived therefrom;

assigning said data to said at least one of said individual components and procedures; and

radio transmitting said data from said mobile communication apparatus via said radio network to which said mobile communication apparatus is affiliated to a service center, wherein said data is weighted based on a severity of said malfunctions prior to said radio transmitting so that severe and less severe malfunctions are easily detectable and distinguishable from one another.

2. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said collecting is performed by using a trace routine.

3. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said transmitting is performed by using a selected one of an SMS and a predefined data call.

4. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said data are coded in a space-efficient format prior to performing said radio transmitting.

5. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said data are stored prior to performing said radio transmitting.

6. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said radio transmitting is performed in regularly spaced intervals.

7. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said radio transmitting is performed during an initializing menu procedure.

8. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 7 wherein said menu procedure is activated during a selected one of when said mobile communication apparatus is logged-in to said network and when said mobile communication apparatus is logged-off from said network.

9. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 7 wherein said menu procedure is activated by a selected one of said user of said mobile communication apparatus and externally via said network.

10. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said data are transferred between said mobile communication apparatus and said network without signaling said user of said mobile communication apparatus.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein said data is associated with multiple malfunctions ~~and said data is weighted based on severity of said malfunctions.~~

12. (Original) The method as recited in Claim 1 wherein a selected one of said collecting and said transmitting is carried out dependent on selectable information items.

13. (Currently Amended) A mobile communication apparatus, comprising:

a subscriber information module (SIM) card for use in said mobile communication apparatus, said SIM card having a means for collecting data from at least one of individual components and procedures embedded within said mobile communication apparatus, said data associated with at least one malfunction of at least one of said individual components and procedures and based on status quo information derived therefrom; and

means for radio transmitting said data from said mobile communication apparatus via said radio network to which said mobile communication apparatus is affiliated to a service center, wherein said data is weighted based on a severity of said malfunctions prior to said radio transmitting so that severe and less severe malfunctions are easily detectable and distinguishable from one another.

14. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said means for collecting is a trace routine.

15. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said means for transmitting is a selected one of an SMS and a predefined data call.

16. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said data are coded in a space-efficient format prior to said radio transmitting.

17. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said data are stored prior to said radio transmitting.

18. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said radio transmitting is performed in regularly spaced intervals.

19. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said radio transmitting is performed during an initializing menu procedure.

20. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 19 wherein said menu procedure is activated during a selected one of when said mobile communication apparatus is logged-in to said network and when said mobile communication apparatus is logged-off from said network.

21. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 19 wherein said menu procedure is activated by a selected one of said user of said mobile communication apparatus and externally via said network.

22. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said data are transferred between said mobile communication apparatus and said network without signaling said user of said mobile communication apparatus.

23. (Currently Amended) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said is associated with multiple malfunctions ~~means for collecting weights said data based on severity of said at least one malfunction.~~

24. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein a selected one of said collecting and said transmitting is carried out dependent on selectable

information items.

25. (Original) The mobile communication apparatus as recited in Claim 13 wherein said mobile communication apparatus is a mobile phone adapted to operate on a selected one of a GSM standard and a UMTS-standard.